



Recreation Fee Program 2003

Forest Accomplishments

Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest

Recreation Fee Program supports recreation Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Region



New Arch Rock Trail bridge being flown to the bridge site. November 2003

Northwest Forest Pass

The Northwest Forest Pass program was a critical component in accomplishing important recreation related work on the Forest. Funds were used to obtain matching grants from the State. This year grants totaled an additional \$100,000. These funds were used to help hire four trail crews. The NW Forest Pass also provided the funds to pay for trail maintenance contracts, trailhead maintenance personnel, purchase materials. The program also paid for interpretive and maintenance staff in the Heather Meadows area. Forest crews worked closely with about two dozen partner organizations including WTA,

VOW, the Backcountry Horsemen, the Pacific Northwest Trail Assn, Northwest Youth Corps, Mountains to Sound Greenway Trust, and the Student Conservation Assn. These groups provided over 50,000 hours of volunteer work and gave young people numerous opportunities to experience working in the Forest. Funds were also used to keep trailheads clean, fly empty toilets in, and full toilets out of the Mt. Baker National Recreation Area. A new trail bridge is under construction in the Norse Peak Wilderness in partnership with the Backcountry Horsemen. BCH members packed decking 4 miles to the site on horseback while NW Forest Pass funds paid for a helicopter to fly the bridge beams to the site. The bridge will be completed next summer.

Cabin Rental Program

Two cabins, Suiattle Guard Station and Evergreen Mountain Lookout were available for rent this past year. Occupancy rates on both cabins were well over 75% during the rental period. Funds generated allowed for basic maintenance at both sites and a new propane refrigerator at the Suiattle Guard Station.

Christmas Tree Program

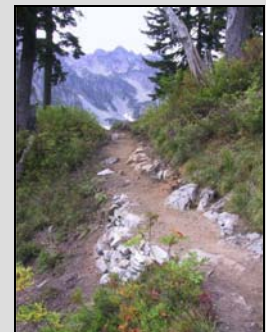
The Christmas Tree program saw another successful year. Staff were available to provided weekend information to tree cutters and Forest employees were out in the woods to assist the public. Winter came late in 2002 which meant more Forest roads were snowfree than normal allowing access to more potential Christmas trees. Additionally, more areas were opened up on new National Forest lands acquired through the Huckleberry Land Exchange with the Weyerhaeuser Company. This provides more low elevation cutting areas in the future.

Forest Accomplishments

Prepared by the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Pacific Northwest Region, for the Recreation Fee Program to provide information regarding program accomplishments for fiscal year 2003.

Program coordination.
Information Contact

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Your Fees At Work

Thank you, your help makes a difference!

The Fees:

Project Name	Total \$ Dollars 2003	Total \$ Dollars 2002	Cost to Collect	% Collect \$
Recreation Lodging	\$3,984	\$7,208	\$700	0%
Campgrounds	\$ N/A	\$	\$	
Northwest Forest Pass	\$553,112	\$516,081	\$60,000	11%
Heritage Expeditions	\$ N/A	\$	\$	
Golden Passport	\$49,681	\$2,182	\$6,000	12%
Christmas Trees	\$ 88,934	43,828	\$7,200	8%

The Accomplishments:



Recreation Lodging: Maintenance work on the Evergreen Mtn. Lookout and the Suttle Guard Station continued with the help of dedicated volunteers and Force Account Crews.



Campgrounds: (Camping includes – R6 Camping – Camping Safety Net – NRRS).



Northwest Forest Pass: NWFP funds were used to leverage over 50,000 hours of volunteer trail work spread over all Ranger Districts. This equates to about \$550,000 in labor on the Forest. NWFP funds also leveraged \$100,000 in grant money. The Forest maintained 787 miles of forest trails, including extensive heavy maintenance on the Pacific Crest Trail.



Golden Passports: Funds were used to print the Cascade Compass, providing information about the Forest to visitors. It is available for free through out the Puget Sound Area.

Forest Specific Project: The Forest sold about 8,900 Christmas Tree permits. Funds were used to provide public information on areas to cut trees, provided field presence and additional weekend office staffing. New areas were opened to cutting.

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